

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of processing user defined boolean variables in a multi dimensional spreadsheet (200) comprising a plurality of cells identified by a cell address along each dimension, said method comprising the steps of:

defining one or a plurality of boolean variables in a table (400), whereby said boolean variables are managed;

referencing said one or plurality of boolean variables in one or a plurality of cells;

~~activating one or plurality of boolean variables in said table (400); and~~

determining the content of said cell or plurality of cells ~~depending on whether said one or plurality of boolean variables are activated or not in said table ;~~

wherein each of said boolean variables can be set as "True" or "False," and impact the content of a cell within an electronic spreadsheet.

2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said step of defining one or a plurality of boolean variables in a table, comprises the further steps of:

for each defined boolean variable:

assigning a name (311) and storing in the table (400) said name (403);

selecting a status value (303) ~~depending on whether the boolean variable is~~

~~activated or not~~ ; and
storing in the table said status value (404) .

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~wherein said step of activating one or plurality of boolean variables in said table, comprises the further step of~~ further comprising:

updating in the table the status value (304, 404) of the one or plurality of ~~activated~~ boolean variables.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of determining the content of said cell or plurality of cells ~~depending on whether said one or plurality of boolean variables are activated or not~~, comprises the further step of:

~~determining, referring to the table (400), whether the one or the plurality of boolean variables referenced in the cell or plurality of cells are activated or not;~~

computing the value of said cell or plurality of cells according to the value of said one or plurality of ~~activated~~ boolean variables.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 comprising the further step of:

changing in the table (400) the name (311) of one or a plurality of boolean variables.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said step of selecting a status value (303) ~~depending on whether the boolean variable is activated or not~~ comprises the further steps of:

setting the status value of the boolean variable to "true" ~~if said boolean variable is activated, and ; or~~

setting the status value of the boolean variables to "false" ~~if said boolean variable is not activated.~~

7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 comprising the further step of:

setting the value of the boolean variable to one when the status value is "true" ~~[[,]] ; or~~

setting the value of the boolean variable to zero when the status value is "false".

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said steps of assigning a name, changing the name, selecting a status value, updating the status value are executed by means of an interactive user interface.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 4 8 wherein said interactive user interface comprises a dialog box (300) displayed on a screen (106) of a computer system (100).

10. (Currently amended) A system (100) comprising ~~means adapted for carrying out the method according to claim 1~~

Appl. No.: 09/838420
Amendment and Reply to Office action of July 2, 2004

means for defining one or a plurality of boolean variables in a table, whereby said boolean variables are managed;
means for referencing said one or plurality of boolean variables in one or a plurality of cells; and
means for determining the content of said cell or plurality of cells;
wherein each of said boolean variables can be set as "True" or "False," and impact the content of a cell within an electronic spreadsheet.

11. (Currently amended) A computer -usable medium ~~program~~ comprising computer readable instructions adapted for carrying out the method according to claim 1.